



## FICMNEW - public meeting notes

24-June-2015, 2:30 PM eastern

**Attendees:** Annie Simpson (USGS, cochair), Jonathan Jones (APHIS), Terri Hogan (NPS), MaryAnn Rondinella (FHA, cochair), Tony Koop (USDA APHIS), Lee Van Wychen (Weed Science Society of America), Chuck Barger (UGA, NAISN), Jil Swearingen (NPS), Don Schmitz (FL Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, NAISN), Ron Moehring (SD Dept of Ag), William Carromero (FWS), Rosiland James (ARS)

### Meeting Summary

This call followed the executive session of FICMNEW, which began 90 minutes earlier. FICMNEW has pushed back the meeting time to 2:30 pm ET to facilitate participation from the west coast. This month there was a presentation by Don Schmitz of the North American Invasive Species Network (NAISN) on the support NAISN can provide to federal agencies and role the organization could play in national invasive species management efforts. The meeting included Agency Round Table Reports. These notes also provide information discussed in the executive session on topics that were included on the public agenda.

### FICMNEW - Open Meeting - 24-June, 2:30 PM ET

Facilitated by MaryAnn Rondinella

**NOTE:** The FICMNEW Open Meeting time has been changed from 10:30 am ET to 2:30 pm ET to facilitate participation from more western time zones.

### Presentation by Don Schmitz with Chuck Barger, North American Invasive Species Network (NAISN)

- NAISN aims to unify and connect existing regional invasive species efforts into a single network to improve communication, collaboration, and overall coordination to help current invasive species management and prevention efforts across the continent.
- There is no lead agency on public conservation lands and waterways dealing with non-native and invasive species. There is a need for an umbrella organization to improve cooperation and coordination. NAISN can serve in this role and provide much needed infrastructure in a multi-jurisdictional environment.
- NAISN was established in 2010. The organization has by-laws; Chuck Barger is NAISN Chair. NAISN is a consortium that uses a coordinated network to advance science-based understanding and enhance management of non-native invasive species. It is composed of 'hubs' (centers; currently 7) and 'nodes' (specialized centers; currently 4) located across North America. The organization provides a variety of services and is modeled on the CDC and the National Interagency Fire Center (NIFC). NAISN is creating the infrastructure for coordination and cooperation for trilateral invasive species management.
- NAISN has benefited from lessons learned in Florida where several invasive plant species that some may have considered beyond management are now under control (water hyacinth and Australian *Melaleuca*, which has gone from 1.8 million acres infested by *Melaleuca* to the species being barely discernable). Lessons:
  - Designate lead coordinator entity
  - Define the problem
  - Prioritize species for management
  - Have an overall goal
  - Establish funding guidelines
  - Deploy rapid response and prevention
  - Encourage local participation – critical to success
  - Perform research
  - Adapt to a changing environment
  - Create outreach efforts that are generational
- How could NAISN work with feds?
  - Act as lead coordinating entity for invasive species on public lands, define the problem (track invasive species expenditures, define ranges for invasive species and what they threaten, economic impact studies), prioritize invasive species for management, develop realistic management goals for each species, help with EDRR, help coordinate and disseminate research (national database), develop strategies to anticipate and respond to range shifts due to climate change effects, help establish a national public awareness and education campaign. NAISN has access to much expertise and can fill in gaps where government entities cannot function.
  - Federal funding support would be essential.



## FICMNEW - public meeting notes

24-June-2015, 2:30 PM eastern

- There was a brief discussion on how NAISN developed its 10 most invasive species list: Use databases, talk to researchers, establish committee that includes scientists/advisors from multiple agencies across North America. Currently NAISN lacks some expertise from the western US.
  - WSSA (Van Wychen) - WSSA has done research on most invasive species in agriculture and outside. Will share with NAISN.
  - Other suggestions for gathering information for top 10 invasive species list: poll experts and practitioners in the field, use established criteria (e.g. from risk assessments).
- How can FICMNEW work with NAISN? NAISN has a variety of committees that aren't yet fully populated. NAISN is seeking federal participation in these.

### NAISN will host the 2017 North American Invasive Species Forum (NAISF, formerly called Weeds Across Borders)

NAISN will sponsor the North American Invasive Species Forum Conference in 2017. They are currently looking for financial and logistical support and feedback.

- Would February or October of 2017 be better for agencies?
  - To get good participation from feds, late January or February would best.
  - October is a difficult time because Feds rarely have a budget yet and many are completing end of the fiscal year reporting.
  - Federal employees can't make arrangement for travel in advance if held in October.
  - Weather can be problematic in northern states (e.g., snowstorms delay flights) in February.
- Suggestion was made to schedule this meeting either immediately before or after another meeting that Federal invasive species folks attend.
- NAISN is looking at Fort Lauderdale for meeting: Hotels near airport and beach, everything within walking distance.
  - ARS has invasive plant research lab in Fort Lauderdale. Potential for fieldtrip.

### Other topics (All)

- **ISAC (Bargerion), DOI (Smith)** - ISAC update on EDRR Framework: There is a Federal work group and non-Federal advisory team workgroup. Fed group met earlier this week, still fleshing out some of information from ISAC and ANS Task Force meetings. EDRR is part of president's priority agenda on climate change. Includes emergency funding.

### Participants' Roundtable (All)

- **BLM (Ramos via Simpson)** - News release on public comment period on EIS for use of three herbicides to treat vegetation (<http://www.blm.gov/wo/st/en/prog/more/vegeis.html>). The public comment period closes August 3, 2015.
- **USDA APHIS (Jones)** - Al Tasker will retire in August, please reach out to him to thank him for his contributions. Al was quite involved in FICMNEW's earlier history.
- **WSSA (Van Wychen)**
  - WSSA was able to get support for establishing, maintaining, and managing pollinator habitat in transportation bill that is currently in the Senate (Lee will send text added to bill to Annie) as an amendment from Sen. Gillibrand encouraging pollinator habitat along transportation rights-of-ways. The amendment was approved as part of the transportation reauthorization bill (DRIVE Act). See Appendix 1 for the text.
  - EPA posted a document in the federal register seeking comments on options for protecting the monarch butterfly, i.e. conserving milkweed. The docket detail is at: <http://www.regulations.gov/#!docketDetail;D=EPA-HQ-OPP-2015-0389>

4:00 PM: Adjourn

Next meeting: Wednesday, July 29th, 2:30 PM eastern time.

Presentation ideas welcomed, please email [asimpson@usgs.gov](mailto:asimpson@usgs.gov)



## FICMNEW - public meeting notes

24-June-2015, 2:30 PM eastern

### Appendix 1: Monarch Habitat Bill Amendment

Purpose: To amend title 23, United States Code, to encourage and facilitate efforts by States and other transportation rights-of-way managers to adopt integrated vegetation management practices, including enhancing plantings of native forbs and grasses that provide habitats and forage for Monarch butterflies and other native pollinators and honey bees, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT intended to be proposed by Mrs. GILLIBRAND  
Viz:

1 At the appropriate place, insert the following:  
2 SEC. II. ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS TO ENCOURAGE  
3 POLLINATOR HABITAT AND FORAGE ON  
4 TRANSPORTATION RIGHTS-OF-WAY.  
5 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 319 of title 23, United  
6 States Code, is amended—  
7 (1) in subsection (a), by inserting “(including  
8 the enhancement of habitat and forage for polli-  
9 nators)” before “adjacent”; and  
p2  
1 (2) by adding at the end the following:  
2 “(c) ENCOURAGEMENT OF POLLINATOR HABITAT  
3 AND FORAGE DEVELOPMENT AND PROTECTION ON  
4 TRANSPORTATION RIGHTS-OF-WAY.—In carrying out  
any  
5 program administered by the Secretary, the Secretary  
6 shall, in conjunction with willing States, as  
appropriate—  
7 “(1) conduct or encourage integrated vegetation  
8 management practices on roadsides and other trans-

9 portation rights-of-way, including reduced mowing;  
10 “(2) enhance the development of habitat and  
11 forage for Monarch butterflies, other native polli-  
12 nators, and honey bees through plantings of native  
13 forbs and grasses, including noninvasive, native  
14 milkweed species that can serve as migratory way  
15 stations for butterflies and facilitate migrations of  
16 other pollinators;  
17 “(3) encourage leveraging through partnerships  
18 and coordination with stakeholders in support of pol-  
19 linators and plantings of native forbs and grasses,  
20 such as environmental groups, research institutions,  
21 other agencies, businesses, and community organiza-  
22 tions;  
23 “(4) conduct or facilitate research and dem-  
24 onstration projects on the economic and environ-  
25 mental benefits and best practices for integrated  
p3  
1 vegetation management, reduced mowing, and plant-  
2 ings of native forbs and grasses for pollinator habi-  
3 tat, forage, and migratory way stations for Monarch  
4 butterflies and other migrating pollinators; and  
5 “(5) solicit participation in the activities de-  
6 scribed in paragraphs (1) through (4) by—  
7 “(A) representatives of the industries of  
8 transportation, landscape management, polli-  
9 nator health, agriculture and horticulture; and  
10 “(B) other affected communities.”  
11 (b) REPORT.—Not later than 18 months after the  
12 date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of  
Transport-

13 tion shall submit to Congress a report that includes—  
14 (1) an analysis of current programs and au-  
15 thorities available to carry out section 319(c) of title  
16 23, United States Code;  
17 (2) a summary of programs and authorities  
18 being used to implement that section;  
19 (3) an assessment of actions being taken by  
20 willing State transportation departments and other  
21 managers of transportation rights-of-way to imple-  
22 ment integrated vegetation management practices,  
23 reduce mowing, and enhance habitat and forage for  
24 Monarch butterflies, other native pollinators, and  
25 honey bees through plantings of native forbs and  
p4  
1 grasses and migratory way stations for Monarch  
2 butterflies and other migrating pollinators;  
3 (4) a summary of Department of Transpor-  
4 tation funds expended on the program; and  
5 (5) any recommendations for further action.  
6 (c) PROVISION OF HABITAT, FORAGE, AND MIGRA-  
7 TORY WAY STATIONS FOR MONARCH BUTTERFLIES,  
8 OTHER NATIVE POLLINATORS, AND HONEY BEES.—  
Sec-  
9 tion 329(a)(1) of title 23, United States Code, is amended  
10 by inserting “provision of habitat, forage, and  
migratory  
11 way stations for Monarch butterflies, other native polli-  
12 nators, and honey bees,” before “and aesthetic  
enhance-  
13 ment”.

### Appendix 2: Potential Acronyms List

Term/ Acronym	Meaning [note that some acronyms in this list may not appear in this document]
ACK55	Bioherbicide <i>Pseudomonas fluorescens</i> strain ACK55
AM	Ante Meridian (morning)
ANSTF	Aquatic Nuisance Species Task Force
APHIS	Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Department of Agriculture
APIPP	Adirondack Park Invasive Plant Program
ASAP	As Soon As Possible
BLM	Bureau of Land Management, Department of Interior
BOR	Bureau of Reclamation, Department of Interior
CDC	Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
CO	Colorado
CONABIO	National Commission for Knowledge and Use of Biodiversity (in Spanish)
CWMA	Cooperative Weed Management Area
D7	bioherbicide <i>Pseudomonas fluorescens</i> strain D7
DHS	Department of Homeland Security
DOE	Department of Energy
DOI	Department of Interior
DOS	Department of State
DOT	Department of Transportation
DRIVE Act	Developing Roadway Infrastructure for a Vibrant Economy Act
EA	Environmental Assessment
EAB	Emerald Ash Borer
EDDMapS	Early Detection and Distribution Mapping System
EDRR	Early Detection Rapid assessment and Response
EIS	Environmental Impact Statement
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency
FACA	Federal Advisory Committee Act
FEIS	Fire Effects Information System
FHWA	Federal Highway Administration, Department of Transportation
FICMNEW	Federal Interagency Committee for the Management of Noxious Exotic Weeds
FWS	Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of Interior
GrSG	Greater Sage Grouse
ICR	Internal Control Review
IPC	Invasive Plant Control, Inc.
IPM	Integrated Pest Management
ISAC	Invasive Species Advisory Committee (FACA Committee of NISC)
ITAP	Federal Interagency Committee on Invasive Terrestrial Animals and Pathogens
MOU	Memorandum Of Understanding

Term/ Acronym	Meaning [note that some acronyms in this list may not appear in this document]
NAISF	North American Invasive Species Forum; also "NAIS Forum" (formerly Weeds Across Borders).
NAISMA	North American Invasive Species Management Association (formerly NAWMA)
NAISN	North American Invasive Species Network
NAWMA	North American Weed Management Association (former name, now NAISMA)
NBVC	Naval Base Ventura County, Department of Defense
NEPA	National Environmental Policy Act
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization, generally not-for-profit
NIFA	National Institute of Food and Agriculture, Department of Agriculture
NIFC	National Interagency Fire Center
NISC	National Invasive Species Council
NISMS	National Invasive Species Management System (Bureau of Land Management)
NOAA	National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Agency, Department of Commerce
NPS	National Park Service, Department of Interior
NY	New York
OESHA	Office of Environment, Safety and Health Assessments, Department of Energy
OMB	Office of Management and Budget
PA	Pennsylvania
PM	Post Meridian (afternoon)
PRISM	Partnership for Regional Invasive Species Management
RFP	Request For Proposals
RFS	Renewable Fuel Standard program (EPA)
RIN	Regulation Identification Number (EPA)
RRIS	Reduce Risks from Invasive Species Coalition
SAFED	FICMNEW elist for federal employees
SD-DA	South Dakota Department of Agriculture
TN	Tennessee
US	United States
USDA	United States Department of Agriculture
USFS	United States Forest Service, Department of Agriculture
USGS	United States Geological Survey, Department of Interior
WAB	Weeds Across Borders (now North American Invasive Species Forum)
WRA	Weed Risk Assessment
WSSA	Weed Science Society of America